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House of Representatives

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACKS IN SHARM EL-SHEIKH, EGYPT, ON JULY 23, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 384) condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on July 23, 2005, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 384

Whereas on July 23, 2005, a series of explosions at tourist facilities in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, planned and carried out by terrorists, resulted in the death of scores of civilians and the injury of hundreds of others;

Whereas the people of Egypt have been subjected to several other terrorist deadly attacks over the past year;

Whereas Egypt's appointed ambassador to Iraq, Dr. Ihab al-Sherif, was kidnapped and executed by terrorists in Baghdad during July 2005; and

Whereas President George W. Bush expressed the solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of Egypt during his visit to the Embassy of Egypt: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks on Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt and other terrorist attacks directed against Egypt;

(2) expresses its condolences to the families and friends of those individuals who were killed in the attacks and expresses its sympathies to those individuals who have been injured;

(3) joins with President George W. Bush in expressing the solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of Egypt as they recover from these cowardly and inhuman attacks; and

(4) expresses its readiness to support the Egyptian authorities in their efforts to bring to justice those individuals responsible for the recent attacks in Egypt and to pursue, disrupt, undermine, and dismantle the networks which plan and carry out such attacks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 384.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is highly regrettable that the House must once again be in the position of having to express its outrage at yet another terrorist incident. Again, that incident is linked to a terrible distortion or perversion of Islam, a perversion that resulted in the killing of scores of Egyptians and their foreign guests, including an American, at Sharm el-Sheikh last weekend.

Two weeks ago we were sharing in the loss of scores of British citizens after the treacherous attacks in London. Today through this resolution we share in the mourning of Egyptians. Our feeling of sympathy is common to both peoples who share with us, most of all, our humanity, and whom we mourn just as we mourn all others who are lost in terrorists attacks around the world.

Despite our differences with certain policies pursued by the Government of Egypt, the killing of innocents must be strongly condemned, and we stand ready to support Egyptian authorities in bringing to justice those responsible for the recent attacks. We must unite with the Government and the people of Egypt to help fight a common enemy.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. The recent deadly terrorist attacks in Egypt culminating in last week's assault on Sharm el-Sheikh have proven once again that the extreme ideology of violent Islamic fundamentalism poses a danger not only to the Western world, but to peace-loving people everywhere. The terrorists do not distinguish between Christians, Jews or Muslims in their search to destroy the core values of civilized society.

Mr. Speaker, at this difficult time we extend our deepest sympathies to the people of Egypt and to the loved ones of those many nations who perished in the bombing. Egypt has suffered several recent losses at the hands of violent fanatics. Earlier this month, Egypt's ambassador-designate in Iraq, Ambassador Ihab al-Sharif, was kidnapped and murdered. This courageous diplomat was to have been the first Arab ambassador accredited to the newly liberated Iraq, and his murder is a tragedy for all decent people.

In that spirit, let me express my profound concern over reports just this morning from Iraq that two recently kidnapped Algerian diplomats also may have been assassinated. I sincerely hope that these reports may not be true.

Mr. Speaker, we want the Egyptian people to know that they have our full support as they seek to hunt down those who planned and implemented the heinous attack at Sharm el-Sheikh, and as they seek to eradicate the scourge of fundamentalist violent Islam that has afflicted Egypt in several spasms over recent years, the same horrendous scourge that took the life of the late President Anwar Sadat, one of the towering figures of the 20th century.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the ultimate answer to this problem lies in

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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education, improved health, economic development, and political reform. But now is not the time to debate those issues. Now is the time to defeat and to destroy the terrorists and those who have created them.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we stand as one with the Egyptian people and the Egyptian Government in opposing and rejecting the violent ideology of extremist Islamic hate of which Egypt has been the latest victim. I support this resolution strongly. I urge all of my colleagues to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on Government Reform.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday July 23, 2005, was a dreadful day for the entire civilized world. The multiple bombings in the Egyptian city of Sharm el-Sheikh that killed dozens constituted the deadliest act of terrorism in Egypt's history.

I want to assure the victims of the attack, their families, and all Egyptian people that the House of Representatives and the American people stand with them during this time of loss.

As we know all too well, terrorists remain committed to senseless killing of innocent people. Their evil must be defeated. That a suicide attacker would ram a pick-up truck packed with 660 pounds of explosives into a hotel is just the most recent demonstration of the viciousness of these killers.

Last weekend's attack is not an isolated incident. A suicide bomber exploded a bomb in a Cairo market on April 7 this year, killing three, including one American. On April 30, two women fired several gunshots into a tour bus in Cairo wounding seven people. And on July 7, Egypt's Ambassador to Iraq, Dr. Ihab al-Sharif, was kidnapped and killed by a group associated with al Qaeda.

□ 1400

The July 23 attack is a heartbreaking reminder of the human toll in the war on terror, but it will only serve to steel the resolve of America, Egypt, and our allies. The U.S. Government will continue its cooperation with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to track down the terrorists involved in these attacks. America and our allies do not distinguish between terrorist acts aimed at interrupting the Israeli-Palestinian appeals process, those attacking the operations of the new Iraqi government, or those that result in the murder of innocent sightseers in Sharm el-Sheikh.

Mr. Speaker, as this legislation resolves all to do, I am proud to join President Bush in expressing the solidarity of the American people with the Egyptian people in the aftermath of the July 23 attacks. I strongly support House Resolution 384.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER), a member of the Committee on International Relations.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the very eloquent ranking member of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for yielding me this time; and I would first like to associate myself with both his remarks and the remarks of the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) as they very aptly expressed the sentiments of the American people in regard to the most recent attacks in Egypt.

The attacks in Sharm el-Sheikh were unconscionable acts of tragedy and terror. At this difficult time, the American people stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Egypt in condemning these reprehensible and senseless acts. As partners in the war against terror, the United States and Egypt are united in our struggle against al Qaeda and the desire for security and peace.

In the past decade, Sharm el-Sheikh has served as an embodiment of hope for the future of the Middle East. It has been a popular tourist destination for Israelis and Europeans and for people worldwide, and the site of high-level peace talks regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict and the future of Iraq. It is my hope that Sharm el-Sheikh will continue to serve as a haven for the hope of peace, irrespective of this tragic event. This is the only way to ensure that the victims of this atrocity will not have died in vain.

I join my colleagues in condemning these horrific acts, expressing condolences to the families of those lost, and reaffirming the long-standing partnership between the United States and Egypt. The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) very eloquently and aptly said: "At such a time, it is not the time for debate regarding policy. It is a time for humanity to come together in the quest for the victory of freedom and democracy."

It would be naive, however, Mr. Speaker, not to acknowledge that these attacks come in a political context. And I would hope, as a result of these attacks, that Egypt continue its efforts, as it has done in the past year, in returning its ambassador to Israel and implementing the QIZ legislation requiring and promoting joint investment between business people in Egypt and Israel for the betterment of Egyptian workers, that Egypt progress on a path of both political and economic reform. That ultimately will provide the victory of freedom and democracy that both Americans and Egyptians justly deserve and the terrorists that committed these heinous acts most definitely oppose.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In this global struggle between chaos and civilization, there is no doubt in my mind that civilization will prevail;

yet every time we are confronted with a tragedy, whether it be London or Sharm el-Sheikh, in Jerusalem or elsewhere, we must express our solidarity with the victims, with the survivors, and with the governments that stand with us against global terrorism.

Our support for the Egyptian people and for the government of Egypt is offered without any reservation or qualification. This House is united in expressing our sympathy and our condolences.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time; but before yielding back my time, I would like to express my personal best wishes to Danielle Simonetta, who is back here, and who will end her exceptional service with the House this week. With her warm good spirits and a depth of managerial skills, she has conducted the legislative agenda on this side of the aisle, frequently under tremendous pressure from many quarters, though not, of course, from Members.

I know I speak for Members on both sides of the aisle when I say, Thank you, Danielle. We are going to miss you, and we welcome you back to our congressional family at any time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 384, "Condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on July 23, 2005."

I wish to express my condolences to the families of those killed in last week's terrorist attacks, and my sympathy to those injured in the bombings. I would also like to join with President's George W. Bush in expressing the solidarity of the people and government of the United States with the people and government of Egypt. The United States stands ready to support the Egyptian authorities in their efforts to bring to justice those responsible for these cowardly attacks.

These attacks, again, make plain the fact that the Global War on Terrorism is not a way of the West against the Muslim world but a war being fought between those who value freedom and democracy and respect for human rights and those who kill innocent civilians.

Egypt is a friend and ally of the United States. The people of the United States stand by the people of Egypt at this time tragedy.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 384. This legislation condemns the vicious terrorist attacks in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt on July 23, 2005. Those tragic blasts left 88 innocent civilians dead and 119 other injured and were the result of a coordinated plan to build fear in the hearts of the Egyptian people and rob them of their liberty.

These acts and many others have been perpetrated by individuals who claim they are acting in the name of Islam. Nothing could be further from the truth. Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance. It is an insult to Muslim Americans and Muslims worldwide to suggest that their chosen religion has anything to do with these terrorist attacks. Let me be clear, those who kill innocents and even themselves in the name of Islam are perverting their religion.

When I talk to Muslim leaders in my district they tell me that the only good thing to come out of these attacks is the raised awareness of their religion and their resulting ability to educate many for the first time on the true tenants of their faith. I am proud of the many Muslims in New Jersey for the work they do everyday to promote peace and religious tolerance. I look forward to a day when all Americans will know the true values of Islam, and understand the hateful and perverted “faith” of those who would commit these deadly attacks.

Terrorism sadly has become a tragic trend in our day and age. The targeting of innocent civilians in brutal attacks throughout the world, in London, New York, Washington, Madrid, the Middle East, and the latest attacks in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt all make us a little less secure as human beings. These attacks cannot be allowed to continue. They rob us all of our life and liberty. We cannot let terrorism become a commonplace aspect of our lives. Consequently, I support this resolution to affirm the solidarity of all Americans with the Egyptian people, and condemn these terrorists attacks.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 384.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on certain questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

ordering the previous question on House Resolution 387, by the yeas and nays;

adopting House Resolution 387, if ordered;

suspending the rules on S. 544, by the yeas and nays;

suspending the rules on S. 45, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3283, UNITED STATES TRADE RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the vote on ordering the previous question on House

Resolution 387 on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 226, nays 202, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 432]

YEAS—226

Aderholt	Gerlach	Norwood
Akin	Gibbons	Nunes
Alexander	Gilchrest	Nussle
Bachus	Gillmor	Osborne
Baker	Gingrey	Otter
Barrett (SC)	Gohmert	Oxley
Bartlett (MD)	Goode	Paul
Barton (TX)	Goodlatte	Pearce
Bass	Granger	Pence
Beauprez	Graves	Peterson (PA)
Biggert	Green (WI)	Petri
Bilirakis	Gutknecht	Pickering
Bishop (UT)	Hall	Pitts
Blackburn	Harris	Poe
Blunt	Hart	Pombo
Boehlert	Hastings (WA)	Porter
Boehner	Hayes	Price (GA)
Bonilla	Hayworth	Pryce (OH)
Bonner	Hefley	Putnam
Bono	Hensarling	Radanovich
Boozman	Herger	Ramstad
Boustany	Hobson	Regula
Bradley (NH)	Hoekstra	Rehberg
Brady (TX)	Hostettler	Reichert
Brown (SC)	Hulshof	Renzi
Brown-Waite,	Hunter	Reynolds
Ginny	Hyde	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Istook	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Jenkins	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Jindal	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp	Johnson (CT)	Royce
Cannon	Johnson, Sam	Ryan (WI)
Cantor	Jones (NC)	Ryun (KS)
Capito	Keller	Saxton
Carter	Kelly	Schwarz (MI)
Castle	Kennedy (MN)	Sensenbrenner
Chabot	King (IA)	Sessions
Chocola	King (NY)	Shadegg
Coble	Kingston	Shaw
Cole (OK)	Kirk	Shays
Conaway	Kline	Sherwood
Cox	Knollenberg	Shimkus
Crenshaw	Kolbe	Shuster
Cubin	Kuhl (NY)	Simmons
Culberson	LaHood	Simpson
Cunningham	Laatham	Smith (NJ)
Davis (KY)	LaTourette	Smith (TX)
Davis, Jo Ann	Leach	Sodrel
Davis, Tom	Lewis (CA)	Souder
Deal (GA)	Lewis (KY)	Stearns
DeLay	Linder	Sullivan
Dent	LoBiondo	Sweeney
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Tancredo
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Taylor (NC)
Doolittle	E.	Terry
Drake	Mack	Thomas
Dreier	Manzullo	Thornberry
Duncan	Marchant	Tiahrt
Ehlers	McCaul (TX)	Tiberi
Emerson	McCotter	Turner
English (PA)	McCrery	Upton
Everett	McHenry	Walden (OR)
Feeney	McHugh	Walsh
Ferguson	McKeon	Wamp
Fitzpatrick (PA)	McMorris	Weldon (FL)
Flake	Mica	Weldon (PA)
Foley	Miller (FL)	Weller
Forbes	Miller (MI)	Westmoreland
Fortenberry	Miller, Gary	Whitfield
Fossella	Moran (KS)	Wicker
Fox	Musgrave	Wilson (NM)
Franks (AZ)	Myrick	Wilson (SC)
Frelinghuysen	Neugebauer	Wolf
Galleghy	Ney	Young (AK)
Garrett (NJ)	Northup	Young (FL)

NAYS—202

Abercrombie	Baird	Berkley
Ackerman	Baldwin	Berman
Allen	Barrow	Berry
Andrews	Bean	Bishop (GA)
Baca	Becerra	Bishop (NY)

Blumenauer	Holt	Owens
Boren	Honda	Pallone
Boswell	Hooley	Pascarell
Boucher	Hoyer	Pastor
Boyd	Inslee	Payne
Brown (OH)	Israel	Pelosi
Brown, Corrine	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (MN)
Butterfield	Jackson-Lee	Pomeroy
Capps	(TX)	Price (NC)
Capuano	Jefferson	Rahall
Cardin	Johnson, E. B.	Rangel
Cardoza	Jones (OH)	Reyes
Carnahan	Kanjorski	Ross
Carson	Kaptur	Rothman
Case	Kennedy (RI)	Roybal-Allard
Chandler	Kildee	Ruppersberger
Clay	Kilpatrick (MI)	Rush
Cleaver	Kind	Ryan (OH)
Clyburn	Kucinich	Sabo
Conyers	Langevin	Salazar
Cooper	Lantos	Sánchez, Linda
Costa	Larsen (WA)	T.
Costello	Larson (CT)	Sanchez, Loretta
Cramer	Lee	Sanders
Crowley	Levin	Schakowsky
Cuellar	Lewis (GA)	Schiff
Cummings	Lipinski	Schwartz (PA)
Davis (AL)	Lofgren, Zoe	Scott (GA)
Davis (CA)	Lowey	Scott (VA)
Davis (FL)	Lynch	Serrano
Davis (IL)	Maloney	Sherman
Davis (TN)	Markey	Skelton
DeFazio	Marshall	Slaughter
DeGette	Matheson	Smith (WA)
Delahunt	Matsui	Snyder
DeLauro	McCarthy	Solis
Dicks	McCollum (MN)	Spratt
Dingell	McDermott	Stark
Doggett	McGovern	Strickland
Doyle	McIntyre	Stupak
Edwards	McKinney	Tanner
Emanuel	McNulty	Tauscher
Engel	Meehan	Taylor (MS)
Eshoo	Meek (FL)	Thompson (CA)
Etheridge	Meeks (NY)	Thompson (MS)
Evans	Melancon	Tierney
Farr	Menendez	Towns
Fattah	Michaud	Udall (CO)
Filner	Millender	Udall (NM)
Ford	McDonald	Van Hollen
Frank (MA)	Miller (NC)	Velázquez
Gonzalez	Miller, George	Visclosky
Gordon	Mollohan	Wasserman
Green, Al	Moore (KS)	Schultz
Green, Gene	Moore (WI)	Waters
Grijalva	Moran (VA)	Watson
Gutierrez	Murtha	Watt
Harman	Nadler	Waxman
Hastings (FL)	Napolitano	Weiner
Herseth	Neal (MA)	Wexler
Higgins	Oberstar	Woolsey
Hinche	Obey	Wu
Hinojosa	Olver	Wynn
Holden	Ortiz	

NOT VOTING—5

Brady (PA)	Johnson (IL)	Platts
Issa	Murphy	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY) (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1429

Mr. BONILLA changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 432 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 432, I was chair of a subcommittee and had to complete the Record. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.